

**CITY OF BRIDGEPORT
CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC SPEAKING SESSION
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014
6:30 PM**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President McCarthy called the Public Speaking Session to order at 6:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Hudson called the roll.

The following members were present:

130th District: Susan Brannelly, Enrique Torres
131st District: Denese Taylor-Moye, Jack O. Banta
132nd District: Robert Halstead, Patricia Swain
133rd District: Thomas McCarthy
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Mary McBride-Lee
136th District: Richard DeJesus
137th District: Milta Feliciano
138th District: Richard Paoletto
139th District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present.

THE FOLLOWING NAMED PERSONS HAVE REQUESTED PERMISSION TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014 AT 6:30 P.M., IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 45 LYON TERRACE, BRIDGEPORT, CT.

NAME

SUBJECT

Jacquelyn Cauthen
397 Charles Street
Bridgeport, CT 06606

Re-opening of the Boys and Girls Club
on Madison Avenue.

Council President McCarthy called Ms. Cauthen's name and there was no response. He repeated her name three times and then requested the police officer on duty to check the foyer area in case Ms. Cauthen was there. The officer reported that there was no one in the foyer area. Council President McCarthy asked if there was anyone else present who wished to address the Council at this time. No one came forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Council President McCarthy then adjourned the Public Speaking Portion of the Council Meeting at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

CITY OF BRIDGEPORT

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014

7:00 PM

City Council Chambers, City Hall - 45 Lyon Terrace

Bridgeport, Connecticut

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Finch called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

PRAYER

Mayor Finch requested Pastor West lead those present in a short prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Finch then requested Ms. Deborah Caviness to lead those present in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Hudson called the roll.

The following members were present:

130th District: Susan Brannelly, Enrique Torres
131st District: Jack O. Banta, Denese Taylor-Moye
132nd District: Robert Halstead, Patricia Swain
133rd District: Thomas McCarthy
134th District: Michelle Lyons
135th District: Mary McBride-Lee
136th District: Richard DeJesus
137th District: Lydia Martinez, Milta Feliciano
138th District: Richard Paoletto
139th District: Eneida Martinez, James Holloway

A quorum was present. Council President McCarthy announced that Council Member Austin was ill, Council Member Vizzo-Paniccia was absent due to a death in the family and Council Member Marella was unable to attend due to personal reasons.

The Council Members were then treated to a brief Christmas concert from the Community Carolers who entered from the foyer area dressed in period dress from the 1800's. They performed a number of songs including The Most Wonderful Time of the Year, Jingle Bells, Winter Wonderland, Silver Bells and Say a Prayer for Me.

Council Member Salter joined the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

Mayoral Proclamation: In Honor of Bridgeport resident and business owner Marshan Coleman for giving back to the community through the creation of a job training academy.

City Council Citation: In Honor of Bridgeport resident and business owner Marshan Coleman for giving back to the community through the creation of a job training academy.

Mayor Finch and various members of the Council came forward to present Mr. Marshan Coleman with a citation for the creation of a job training academy.

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

Approval of City Council Minutes: November 3, 2014

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ SECONDED.**

Council Member Halstead then stated that there needed to be clarification regarding his conversation with Ms. Gupta regarding the Connecticut State Library FY 2015 Targeted Grant for Historic Documents Preservation Program. He read a statement detailing the verbal exchange. Mayor Finch asked Council Member Halstead what he was requesting. Council Member Halstead said that he wished to have the minutes amended to reflect his statements. Atty. Anastasi pointed out that it would be acceptable to include Council Member Halstead's words, but Ms. Gupta was not present to verify what she had said.

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO TABLE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014 TO CONFIRM THE STATEMENTS COUNCIL MEMBER HALSTEAD ATTRIBUTED TO MS. GUPTA.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO TABLE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 3, 2014 PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

COMMUNICATIONS TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA ITEMS LISTED BELOW TO BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEES:**

10-14 COMMUNICATION FROM CENTRAL GRANTS RE: GRANT SUBMISSION: NATIONAL ENDOWMENTS FOR ARTS (NEA) – ART WORKS PROGRAM FOR A BRIDGEPORT ARTS FEST GRANT PROGRAM (#15454),

REFERRED TO ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MATTERS TO BE ACTED UPON (CONSENT CALENDAR):

Mayor Finch asked if there were any items that the Council Members wished to have removed from the Consent Calendar. Council Member Torres said that he wished to remove Agenda Item *08-14 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: City of Bridgeport Application for Land Value Taxation Pilot Program pursuant to Public Act 13-247, Sec. 329 and C.G.S. Sec. 12-63h.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO MOVED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS AS THE CONSENT CALENDAR:**

***179-13 PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT RE: REQUEST THAT GREGORY STREET BE GIVEN THE HONORARY DESIGNATION OF WALTER'S MEMORIAL AME ZION CHURCH BOULEVARD WITH PROPER SIGNAGE TO BE PLACED ABOVE THE STREET SIGN AT THE INTERSECTION OF GREGORY STREET AND LAFAYETTE STREET.**

***187-13 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: RESOLUTION AFFIRMING AND APPROVING FINANCING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$90,370,000.00 FOR THE DESIGN, REHABILITATION, UPGRADING AND CONSTRUCTION OF VARIOUS RENOVATIONS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EAST SIDE AND WEST SIDE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANTS.**

***189-13 JOINT COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS AND MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS REPORT RE: TAX ABATEMENT FOR PROPERTIES LOCATED AT 59 AND 83 PRIMROSE AVENUE, DENIED.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR AS LISTED PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

***08-14 Budget and Appropriations Committee Report re: City of Bridgeport Application for Land Value Taxation Pilot Program pursuant to Public Act 13-247, Sec. 329 and C.G.S. Sec. 12-63h.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY MOVED AGENDA ITEM *08-14 BUDGET AND APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT RE: CITY OF BRIDGEPORT APPLICATION FOR LAND VALUE TAXATION PILOT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO PUBLIC ACT 13-247, Sec. 329 AND C.G.S. Sec. 12-63h.
** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY SECONDED.**

Council Member Torres said that he emphatically supported this item.

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD TWO ADDITIONAL ITEMS.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION TO MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD TWO ADDITIONAL ITEMS PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO ADD AGENDA ITEM 03-14 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH HILLARY MACKENZIE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BANTA SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

03-14 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Hillary Mackenzie.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH HILLARY MACKENZIE.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO ADD AGENDA ITEM 07-14 PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH VALERIE SORRENTINO.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNELLY SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Council President McCarthy and Council Member Feliciano recused themselves from the meeting.

07-14 Proposed Settlement of Pending Litigation with Valerie Sorrentino.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SETTLEMENT OF PENDING LITIGATION WITH VALERIE SORRENTINO.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER TAYLOR-MOYE SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED WITH FOURTEEN (14) IN FAVOR (BRANNELLY, TORRES, BANTA, TAYLOR-MOYE, HALSTEAD, SWAIN, LYONS, MCBRIDE-LEE, SALTER, DEJESUS, MARTINEZ, PAOLETTO, E. MARTINEZ AND HOLLOWAY) AND TWO (2) ABSTENTIONS (MCCARTHY AND FELICIANO).**

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO SUSPEND THE RULES TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER LYONS SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO REFER THE FOLLOWING TO THE MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS COMMITTEE:**

RE: RESOLUTION AMENDING CITY COUNCIL RULES – RULE XXXI COUNCIL LIAISONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS TO GENERALLY DEFINE THE POSITION, ROLES, DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE VARIOUS APPOINTED CITY COUNCIL LIAISONS.

**** COUNCIL MEMBER PAOLETTO SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. (ITEM #11-14)**

Council Member Lyons announced that Council President McCarthy had been elected to Board of Directors for the National League of Cities.

Mayor Finch introduced the new Assistant CAO, Teri Brown.

Mayor Finch thanked Council Members Martinez and Feliciano for the wonderful Christmas party for the Veterans.

Council President McCarthy said that he has known Teri Brown for some time and was pleased with the selection. He also thanked Council Members Lyons and Holloway and all the other Council Members who were responsible for his election to the NLC Board of Directors.

Council Member Banta spoke about the encouraging work that was going on at Steele Point.

Mayor Finch announced that the State had awarded Bridgeport 270 pre-K spots. 180 of those are new spots for children. The State is trying to introduce universal pre-K and the Bridgeport BOE is working hard on this.

ADJOURNMENT

**** COUNCIL PRESIDENT MCCARTHY MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**** COUNCIL MEMBER SWAIN SECONDED.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

S. L. Soltes
Telesco Secretarial Services

City of Bridgeport
City Council
Regular Meeting
December 15, 2014